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Land Office Correspondences (June-Aug. 1838)

Maine Land Office

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S. S. Whipple

June 1 1838

E. L. Hamlin Esq

Danvers —

from
E. L. Hamlin
June 1 1838

N^o 4. 6th Range June 1st 1838

My Dear Sir

The progress of our work here is very much retarded by bad weather it has rained more or less every day since leaving the point - I am in hopes we shall close to day - I send you a plan of the settling land surveyed with a profile plan of the road the chance for a road is full as good as the average I was under the necessity of making an angle $\frac{1}{4}$ a mile after entering the Township as you will see by the plan the hill on a line stands at an angle of elevation of 13° by taking advantage of the turn the elevation is reduced to between 9 and 10° - take the whole distance the roading will be easy - I called on Mr Fish to assist me in getting a permit to pass over proprietors lands in N^o 4-5-R He cheerfully engaged and procured the necessary permits and I commenced locating the road from the Arvoastue road running between Lots R^o 20 and 21 to the W line of N^o 4 in consequence of the lines in the 2 Townships not exactly corresponding I had to make a slight angle of 10° in order to get onto the line between Lots R^o 2 and 19 - You will observe by the plan that the new lines are dotted I called the old line 1 mile from the R line of the Township, the center of the road except where an angle become necessary and in describing lots something like the following will be necessary. Take for example the first lot on the left after entering

the Township say beginning at a stake 2 rods or $\frac{1}{2}$ of a stake
mentioned 1st then running $N 15^{\circ} 30' E$ till it intersects the N
line of the Township then $S 74^{\circ} 30' E$ 40 rods to a line & then
and running $S 15^{\circ} 30' W$ one mile to within 2 rods of the line
of the road then $N 74^{\circ} 30'$ to point of beginning. Mowing to
enclose the SW half of lots 20, 1 and 2 - on plan of
survey by J. Small - I had intended to go onto A. & C. courts
from here but as there is no particular enquiry about
that section I shall go direct to W. 10 which not less
than twenty have preceded me and are now waiting for
my arrival then among other Mr. P. Norton, I desire
to have land hunters about while I am locating lots more
especially if they expect if they to point out their own
lots and make all the rest of the world conform to them,
for as Peter Carl says I am determined to have a fair Deal -
I am at a loss to know how to act in reference to what
you say about settlers taking up lots, in that way you
may rely upon it there will be a clash before long,
some individuals are here and wish to select lots in
A. & C. 4 and I am told that others have already written
for the same lots, I tell them they must select several lots
and go direct to Bangor and possible some of them may
not be selected by others. You will observe in the permits
for the road that they both make reference to the ~~same~~
lot was A. & C. 20 the mistake is in the permit of Mr.
Fish his lot is 21 I presume he will alter it any time
I have marked the price in pencil mark upon each of
the lots in A. & C. 4 - the price is in cents per acre

I found the Survey of that Township in some respects
rather incorrect but the greatest difficulty occurs
in the chaining, but the quantity of land given is nearly
correct in all cases rather over run but I believe
that has been customary, and as that in 1724 is a recent
survey I have adopted the quantities of land mentioned on
the several lots —

I'm very much of probably shall be able to make a report
as to that part of the Anroostee Road beyond fishes mill
I shall see Dr Holmes as to the route for a road
across the country from Bridgewater Academy grant to
S. G. 6th Range

Yours Respectfully
L. S. Whipple

and
as I may be short of funds

Elijah L Hamlin Esq
Land Office
Bangor

J. M. Hamlin
Dec 8 1898

N^o 11-5. R. Jun 8 - 1838

My Dear Sir

Allow me to introduce to your notice
Mr Dalton the Beams of this he is a man
of some acquaintance in this section, I believe a
man of as good a character or better than
any other in this vicinity, he appears to be
an intelligent man, and one well fitted for
the purposes you mentioned, and if it should
be thought proper to appoint him he might
be qualified while there, I still think it
would be well to get the appointment for
Mr Perrot if so send him if convenient
justice assistant

yours S. S. Whipple

E. L. H.

S. A. Whipple

June 1838

No 10 - June 17th 1888

Dear Sir

The bearer Mr. Felt Grant has made selection of 3 lots of land in this township one for self 2 for 2 of his brothers and one is selected by a Mr. Hage and chopping is commenced on all four of them. The numbering will commence at the Town line on the south side after the Westport Road. The settler selected four more one set from Mr. G. Linn and lay 2 lots on each side of the road. I understand Mr. Horton that Mr. Pollard and Mrs. were to select lots in that section. We are getting on pretty well considering the heat and then I wish you to write me as soon as Mr. Felt Grant returns send us the check for we have none except what we make

Yours
J. S. Whipple

E. S. Hamilton Esq

Land Agent

Bangor —



June 24 1898

J. A. M. M. M.

(Dear

Uxroostock of 10 June 24th 1838

We find it very difficult to furnish ourselves with bread; and sugar we have none, ^{there} was none or next to none made here last winter, what little wheat the inhabitants have here is of bad quality and scarcely a supply for the settling, and it will not be so economical as to send it from Königsberg — Will you call on our baker and get him to put up 8 barrels of the same kind of bread as furnished before, likewise 100 lbs of loaf sugar if not too high it is more conveniently managed, of even carriage and the same weight contains the greatest amount of sweet

Yours respectfully
S. S. Whipple.

A. B. I have engaged Mr Chase to get the articles here

~~is~~ a belt of cutlery for Pontaloon for the men
1/2 doz jack knives.

Mr. Lacey
not so thick & hard

8 lb. hard

7 lb. 75 sugar

By Saml
 Astock No 10 - 5th Vicage

By the politeness of Mr. Marks we received a goodly number of Aches Papers. I likewise received 3 letters from different individuals and in one was enclosed \$100. in Province Money which is most proper for this Section — Since my arrival here I have started the survey of No 12 5th R. under Capt Parrot. His progress was a little retarded in consequence of the obscurity of Horns lines, I went onto the Township with him and pointed out the South line, and supposed there would be no difficulty in tracing it, but he found it rather blind; from thence I went to Fairbanks is, was in consequence of the high state of the river delayed from getting back onto No 12 5 days, when I did arrive I met the Capt hunting for the East line it happened to be within a few rods of where the line was, which I supposed would end the difficulty, He thinks as I understand that one of the lines was never run, I presume there is a sort of a line and as soon as I can leave I shall see to it, the lines are all badly run and were marked in this Section — The survey in No 10 is now about ready to go onto a plan with ~~with~~ all the roads located and surveyed, since your suggestion as to a road from and across the No 9 & I have taken pains to inform myself as to the importance of it and I can not from all I can gather think it a good move by reasons I will give you as briefly as I can, in the first place it will always require the Collaboration of Massachusetts in

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locating roads over any portion ^{of their public lands;} consequently much delay must
ensue, in the next plan building roads so much at right angles,
and having no important point of terminus, they must remain near
by ways, and settling routes, such are important, if we mean to settle
our lands, but in open^{ing} our roads in that manner we must wait
the movements of Massachusetts ~~to~~ ^{cooperating} with us in opening
the same - I do not offer their objections to that road without
being able to offer what I think a better in its place, and so
far as I have been able to inform myself the road that I
now suggest will pass over the best tracts of our settling lands
now in market, You will perceive by the Plan I send you
that the ~~original~~ method of laying out roads is not only
feasible but highly desirable, for the following reasons, by passing
directly from the corner of one of the Maine Townships to
the adjoining corner of another in the next range, we shall
not interfere with the lands of Massachusetts so far as to require
any tedious negotiation; and by so doing we open roads the whole
distance over our own land, and may build them as fast
as the lands on their course may be settled, and made without
any other appropriation than what the settling saw will yield -
It will open the greatest facilities of communication from one
of our towns to the other; ~~And~~ ^{what} I consider one of the
most important of all objects is that they are constantly
leading to some important point; since passing the above
St. Johns. read me an extract from one of your letters which goes
far to confirm me in the belief that your views and ^{mine} ~~very~~
nearly coincide upon this subject, I have at this moment a
crew of men surveying a road from near the center of

of 10 - to the center of No 9 - in the next Range on the ³4
a route that I explored a few days ago, when that road
is surveyed Mr. Gordon who is out on that business will be
ready to commence surveying the lot - in No 10 - 5 R - He
has already renewed the town lines, surveyed the Piestock,
and explored the different parts of the Township; surveying a
township upon our present plan by first laying the roads,
and requiring the lots to correspond to them ~~roads~~ is a far
more tedious business than the former method of laying
out a township like an enormous checker board -
those surveys made without reference to the means of access
to and from them, will be found of very little use -
you may expect that I shall be able ^{by this time} to give some general
description of this region I will make one or two extracts
from my minutes - The sand on
The immediate border of the Piestock river is not so
universally good as I expected to find it; nearly three fourths
of the distance from No 12 to Fairbonds is without enter-
vail strictly speaking; although there is much alluvial sand,
~~but~~ sand predominates to such a degree as to preclude
profitable cultivation; for quite a portion of the distance the
banks rise abruptly to a height of from 20 to 40 feet
composed of a sandy gravel forming what is commonly termed
a lean soil, but the land improves in quality as it rises
from the level of the high bank; The ridges back from the
river, and in short though the Piestock valley are for the
greatest part composed of a loamy debris covered with
a heavy growth of Rock maple as the predominant, some

~~Hand Maple~~ yellow Birch, Fir, and Spruce, some large pines and cedars, free from rocks, I should say without hesitation the 1st rate soil seldom exceeded ~~by~~ ~~any~~ ~~land~~ ~~in New England~~; the cedar in this region is found growing on all kinds of land and at all elevations, it attaining a much larger size here than near the sea shore, perhaps indicative of the difference in climate as well as in the soil; it seems to be a tree that for its full development requires a hot but short summer with a long and steady winter, and a rich and moist soil - I have a much more favourable opinion of the upland in this section than I have of the intervals, and all things considered, the purity of the air and water, the fertility of the soil, and the certainty of a wheat and grass crop, I am led to believe this one of the most eligible locations the young farmer can possibly select; the former is to the contrary notwithstanding.

Mr. Fairbanks lives on the N. W. corner of lot 4th 2nd Range, has a good Saw Mill for business, a grain mill with every convenience for manufacturing Flour. Two dwelling houses, the one is new and finished in a manner that would be a credit to any of our older settlements. He has two large barns, about 100 acres of land cleared and under neat cultivation; the greatest part of this township consists of the 1st rate soil. it is quite free from rocks - the growth on the ridges, as is usual in this country, is mostly Black Maple, the lower lands are covered with a heavy growth of a mixed character, the cedar which grows to such an enormous size in this vicinity, indicates a highly

fertile Soil. and very different from what one would be led to suppose from a cedar growth farther South where the Soil under such a growth is usually very rocky those who come here to look for the best land must first overcome their prejudices against such a growth or they will be liable to overlook some of the very best ~~land~~ ^{Soils} in this country —

I regret the circumstance of Norton taking the course here that he has, it has been the means of defeating some I wish you to notify him that he must come or appoint some one to select his lots in this Township @ 10 - by the middle of July there are more good lots here than he can occupy and others must not be left off by his delay —

I gave the Fitz Gerald's the opportunity of selecting 4 lots as I was informed they were Pollards men but it seems they were not the ones intended by Norton but they have commenced their clearings and I shall not disturb them —

A Mr Wilson has commenced a chopping at the lower end of the town he in fact had commenced and selected when Norton arrived here and He tells me that he had your permit to make his selection he appears to be a good man for a new settlement and I can see no good reason why he is to be

Disturbed

When I arrived here I supposed that the original settlers had advantages enough on the intervals but upon more careful examination I find the intervals where 2 or 3 of them are located fall back into swam that will not admit of cultivation consequently I must attach a piece of upland to their farms from the other side of the river, for every foot of ground they can occupy on the interval side of the river is liable to overflow not excepting even a breeding lot, in short the best intervals in this section will always be subject to unseasonable inundations and destructive frosts - I find on the St. Clair within this township good mill privileges -

How goes whiggery, do tell us the signs of the times, the papers you know do not give a very succinct account of the state of parties -

E. L. H.

Yours truly

S. S. Whipple

I have broken the seal of this letter in order to state the fact that Mr. Porrot has arrived from DC and reports good progress, he is ready to commence lotting on the E side of the river in DC 12 which is good land the W. side of the stream he does not speak so well of

relative to alluvions in DC 9 on the groostie road I cannot agree with Mr. Pollard and others with the exception of a slight attraction when it crosses the south line of DC 10 I think the Road as well located as in any other part of it if it

should be carried farther to the East it would pass over
the same character of land and some worse swamps -

I find the arctic has in fact very little resemblance to
its figure on the map the small streams you can have but
as a small idea of - I shall endeavour to arrange in
the course of the summer a more accurate map of the section of
the Nestook

S. S. W.

Ship
and

J. S. Whipple
July 7 1838

E. S. Hamlin Esq^r

Land Agent

Bangor

Ms
11

Mr Elijah L Hamlin Esq
Bangor

Am

John Weston
July 16 1838

Worcester July 16th 1820

Dear Sir

There is a Set of Land Located in
the East half of this Town or Boyds half, so called,
of a 160 Acres which was reserved in said Boyds
Deed from Massachusetts. I wish to know in the Division
of Land whether it belongs to Maine or Massachusetts
said Set was reserved in said Deed for the future appo-
-pointment of the Legislature and was located by the Committee
that was appointed to locate the public Lands in this Town
if you will inform ~~me~~ as soon as convenient and
what it can be had for & the Terms of payment you
will very much oblige yours John Hickman

S. S. Whipple

Aug 1838



E. L. Hamlin Esq.

Land office

Bangor -

My Dear Sir Crockett of 10-5th.

This will be handed you by Mr. Buckman who is at present here on the lookout for lands with 3 or 4 other enterprising men in company. They seem to be taking hold at once, but a strong monopoly seems to strike a damp on the mind of almost every man that visits us — These gentlemen seem to be highly pleased with this country, as does every one that makes allowance for the wild sayings of Dr. Jackson; the Dr. was too enthusiastic; you know his mind is habituated on a pivot of impulse, rational and thinking men know how to make allowances; but many do not and not viewing this region through the same medium turn back in disgust, although the country is infinitely better for farming, than what they leave behind them yet because it falls short of what the Doctor reported they are ready to exclaim against it in toto, I do think that some are employed by the Locos for the express purpose of preventing the settlement of this country and if possible of bringing what may be termed whig measures into discredit. It is matter of some surprise that Perrot should have employed a crew almost exclusively Tory at least I think such is the fact —

I wish you would inform me whether Parrot has been a whif
for any length of time and if so whether he is a man
that would be likely to go against us on account of any
disappointment. I have run a road from near the center of $\Delta 10$
5 Range to the center of $\Delta 9-4 R$ it passes over a considerable
portion of good selling land though not much of what we call the
first rate here - these Edsworth men have gone onto
 $\Delta 11-4 R$ to look at Square Pond so called Square
pond on the maps it said there is a body of beautiful land
lying on the borders of that talic - and as I shall in
the progress of my survey in this town find it necessary
to run a road towards the N. E. corner of $\Delta 10$ this
road will accommodate $\Delta 10-4 R$ somewhat according
to the plan of roading I suggested to you
I have my doubts as to Pollard's intention of building
mills on $\Delta 9$, between you and I. I have some suspicion
that we have a gang of counterfeiters in this section, I shall
try to detect the camp if possible which I rather think is
no 9-5 Range Massachusetts; keep close on this subject for
I may be mistaken -

Mr Chase will have in the office an account of supplies expended
while Dr Holmes was with us and from supplies on hand they
take $\frac{1}{2}$ barrel of Port and nearly a barrel of bread
14 lbs of tea by estimation, I wrote for loaf sugar
as I understood it had been customary heretofore, if such
has not been the case I would not have it -
You had better have a little talk with Chase
about trespassers in this region He is well

acquainted him, He grovels about every body and every
thing, but I think he is honest, and as he is coming
back, it might be well to employ him to trace out
some of the old logging roads and ascertain what moose mounds
are marking for the coming winter, I am satisfied it will
amount to nothing if you employ a resident here to do that
Only they could not do their duty and be safe in person and
property.

I shall be able in a very few days to send you a plan of
this township, the garden is now settling; I think to remove
the town lines, explore the settling land, and locate roads
to accommodate all the lots, is almost one half the labor
of the whole survey; if it was merely necessary to run
the lots into squares the running those lots would sufficiently
explore the land.

E L H

Yours respectfully

J. S. Whipple

Sanford Noble

Aug 25 1838

Mr

Hamlin esq

Land agent for the
State of Maine
of Hamden

Roostock River - August - 25th

Dear Sir I am settled in township No 10-5-range
lot No 74 on the west side of the river on
an intervale that is rather low and frosty and
the frost has hurt my vegetation verry much on
the 14th of the month of augt. and I wish you to sell
me lot No 27 about 70 acres which I have made a
small chopping on. as it lays on the opposite side of the
river opposite the lot I now live on as it is more
elevated laying on the road where I wish to build in
the future I expect to see you on or before the first
of January and wish to buye the two lots. Sincerely
yours done on lot No 74 I Remain your most obe-
dient servant with due esteem
a line from you if convenient Sanford Noble.

Thomas Goff

Aug 20 1838

Eliza L. Hamilton Barton

Maier

Dear Sir i wrote you in the Spring respecting my
situation in town ship No 10 in the fifth range
and stated to you that i was the first settler in
the township settling here two years prior to
any other person and requested if it were possible
to have some land allotted to me so as to embrace
my improvements and calculations for a farm
But it now appears that a mister Norton has
a claim to the land which i had taken with claim
he says he has from the land office the land which i had
taken up says on both sides the river and since that
time the road has been layed out through that part
lying on the east side of the river, now it appears
the act passed makes provision that the settler may
have 160 acres of land this quantity has not been given
me by the survey nor in shape as i had taken it
with entire by doctorys my whole calculations and if
i cannot be convinced any better than to take
the land which i had in possession and give it to
another with some years after me i have to
state with reluctance to value my improvements
in this place and pay me for the same and i will
clear from the country

Captain Parrott will inform you of my debt
and what i wish for from the State and if
i can have the same my settling duties are thereby
done and the money want is ready at any hour
i should beg to hear from you by the
first opportunity

Respectfully yours

Brookfield

August 20th 1833

Thomas Goff

W. G.